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HB 23 HD 1 RELATING TO RECYCLING

Statement for
House Committee on
Finance
Public Hearing - February 22, 1989

By
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HB 23 HD 1 would create a State of Hawaii recycling commission to formulate a statewide plan for recycling.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

HB 23 HD 1 reflects many of the suggestions provided at the earlier hearing on HB 23 and we generally concur with these amendments. We continue to question the appropriateness of the placement of the commission, for administrative purposes, within the Department of Business and Economic Development. It would appear to us that placement within the Office of State Planning or Department of Health might be a better alternative given their respective missions.

In our earlier statement on HB 23, we suggested that the bill be amended to direct the commission to evaluate recycling legislation and programs implemented in other states so as to assess their applicability to Hawaii. We continue to believe that such a directive should be included in the bill to assure that Hawaii will benefit by the experience of other state systems. With this in mind we suggest that page 3, lines 9-10 be amended to read "...the commission shall review and consider existing data from recent studies, including that from other states, with respect to solid waste, litter, landfills...."

Again we would like to stress our strong support for the intent of this bill and commend the Chairman and his committee for addressing this urgent issue.